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SENATE BILL 683

44TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 1999

INTRODUCED BY

Pete Campos

AN ACT

RELATING TO EDUCATION; ENACTING THE CLASSROOM PIGGY BANK ACT;
PROVIDING MONEY FOR TEACHERS FOR INSTRUCTIONAL AND EDUCATIONAL
ACTIVITIES; MAKING AN APPROPRIATION.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

Section 1. A new section of the Public School Code is
enacted to read:

" NEW MATERIAL SHORT TITLE. -- This act may be cited as
the "Classroom Piggy Bank Act". "

Section 2. A new section of the Public School Code is
enacted to read:

" NEW MATERIAL DEFINITIONS. -- As used in the Classroom
Piggy Bank Act:

A. "educational activities" means instructional
events occurring in or outside the classroom for the

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1 educational benefit of children;

2 B. "fund" means the classroom piggy bank fund;

3 C. "instructional supplies" means incidental items
4 or equipment for use in a classroom setting for the benefit of
5 children; and

6 D. "teacher" means a certified school instructor
7 at a public school or at an accredited private school who
8 spends the majority of the work day providing instruction to
9 children in grades kindergarten through twelve in a classroom
10 setting. "

11 Section 3. A new section of the Public School Code is
12 enacted to read:

13 "[NEW MATERIAL] CLASSROOM PIGGY BANK FUND CREATED. --The
14 "classroom piggy bank fund" is created in the state treasury.
15 Money in the fund is appropriated to the department of
16 education for the purpose of making distributions to school
17 districts and accredited private schools for distribution to
18 teachers pursuant to the provisions of the Classroom Piggy
19 Bank Act. Money in the fund shall be distributed upon warrant
20 of the department of finance and administration pursuant to
21 vouchers signed by the state superintendent. Unexpended or
22 unencumbered balances remaining in the fund at the end of any
23 fiscal year shall revert to the general fund. "

24 Section 4. A new section of the Public School Code is
25 enacted to read:

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1 " [NEW MATERIAL] DISTRIBUTION OF THE FUND. -- Money in the
2 fund shall be distributed annually at the commencement of the
3 regular school year. The department of education shall
4 distribute money in the fund in a pro rata share to each
5 school district or accredited private school on the basis of
6 the number of full-time teachers employed by the district or
7 accredited private school. Money distributed to each school
8 district or accredited private school shall be transferred to
9 the principal of each school in the school district for equal
10 distribution to each full-time teacher for their out-of-pocket
11 classroom expenses. Money distributed from the fund shall be
12 in addition to and shall not supplant a distribution made
13 pursuant to the Instructional Material Law. "

14 Section 5. A new section of the Public School Code is
15 enacted to read:

16 " [NEW MATERIAL] EXPENDITURE OF MONEY--RECEIPTS. --

17 A. Money distributed from the fund shall be
18 expended only for the purchase of instructional supplies or
19 for educational activities, with a limit of one hundred
20 dollars (\$100) per teacher per year. Distributions to
21 individual teachers may, at the discretion of the teacher, be
22 combined with distributions to other teachers at the same
23 school to enable joint purchases and enhanced purchasing
24 power. Money from the fund shall not be used for basic
25 building needs or on non-instruction-related uses. Money

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1 shall not be used for materials used in the teaching of
2 religious tenets, doctrines or worship.

3 B. A teacher expending money distributed from the
4 fund shall provide detailed receipts for all expenditures to
5 the principal of the school within thirty days of the
6 expenditure.

7 C. Money distributed to a principal or a teacher
8 that remains unexpended at the end of the regular school year
9 shall be remitted to the school district for remittance to the
10 fund. "

11 Section 6. APPROPRIATION. -- Three million dollars
12 (\$3,000,000) is appropriated from the general fund to the
13 classroom piggy bank fund for expenditure in fiscal year 2000
14 for the purpose of making distributions pursuant to the
15 Classroom Piggy Bank Act. Any unexpended or unencumbered
16 balance remaining at the end of fiscal year 2000 shall revert
17 to the general fund.